# SGK1 aggravates idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis by triggering H3k27acmediated macrophage reprogramming and disturbing immune homeostasis

Jianzhi Wu<sup>1, #</sup>, Liping Gong <sup>3, #</sup>, Yijie Li<sup>1</sup>, Tiegang Liu<sup>2, 5</sup>, Rong Sun<sup>3</sup>, Kexin Jia<sup>1</sup>,

Runping Liu<sup>4</sup>, Fei Dong<sup>2, 5</sup>, Xiaohong Gu<sup>2, 5, \*</sup>, Xiaojiaoyang Li<sup>1, \*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> School of Life Sciences, Beijing University of Chinese Medicine, Beijing, 100029, China

<sup>2</sup> Institute of Chinese Epidemic Disease, Beijing University of Chinese Medicine, Beijing 100029, China

<sup>3</sup> The Second Hospital of Shandong University, Shan Dong University, 247 Bei Yuan Da Jie, Jinan, 250033, China

<sup>4</sup> School of Chinese Materia Medica, Beijing University of Chinese Medicine, 11 Bei San Huan Dong Lu, Beijing, 100029, China

<sup>5</sup> School of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Beijing University of Chinese Medicine, Beijing, 100029, China

### <sup>#</sup>These authors contributed equally to this work.

\*Corresponding authors: Prof. Xiaojiaoyang Li and Prof. Xiaohong Gu

Address correspondence to:

Xiaojiaoyang Li, Ph.D.

School of Life Sciences

Beijing University of Chinese Medicine, Beijing, China

Email: xiaojiaoyang.li@bucm.edu.cn

## OR

## Xiaohong Gu, MD, Ph.D.

Institute of Chinese Epidemic Disease

Beijing University of Chinese Medicine

Email: guxh1003@126.com

Supplemental figure legends



Figure S1. Expressions of SGK1 in BLM- and LPS- induced acute and chronic IPF mice models. (A) The mRNA levels of *Sgk1* in acute and chronic IPF mice. (B) Representative images of immunohistochemistry staining of SGK1 in acute and chronic IPF mice lungs (Scale bar =  $100 \mu$ m). (C) Representative images of

immunofluorescent staining of iNOS and CD206 in normal and IPF patient lungs. Scale bar = 200  $\mu$ m. Statistical significance: \**P*<0.05, \*\**P*<0.01, \*\*\**P*<0.001, compared with relative groups (n=6).



Figure S2. BLM + LPS promotes the reprograming of macrophages from M1 to

 $\ensuremath{\text{M2.}}$  Representative images of immunofluorescent staining of iNOS and CD206 in

lungs. Scale bar = 200  $\mu$ m.



Figure S3. BLM plus LPS increases the number of M2 macrophages, aggravates

fibrotic injury along with increases TGF- $\beta$ 1 secretion. Representative images of immunofluorescent co-staining of iNOS and CD206 (A) in THP-1 cells (Scale bar = 50  $\mu$ m), and co-staining of FN and CD206 (B) in lung tissues (Scale bar = 200  $\mu$ m). (C) Representative images of immunofluorescent result of TGF- $\beta$  and CD206 in THP-1 cells treated with BLM and/or LPS. Scale bar = 50  $\mu$ m.





analyzes number of Th1, Th2 and Treg cells in the lung. (B) Representative images of

immunofluorescent result of CD4 and IL-17 in lungs. Scale bar = 200  $\mu$ m.



Figure S5. Macrophage rather than the myofibroblasts were the main producers

of CCL9 in fibrotic lung tissues. Representative images of co-immunofluorescent staining of CCL9 with F4/80 and  $\alpha$ -SMA. Scale bar = 200  $\mu$ m.



### Figure S6. Macrophage reprogramming is regulated by SGK1-mediated GSK3β-

**TIP60 pathway.** Representative immunoblots against ERK1/2 (**A**), PCAF, p300, K3K9ac (**B**), p-ERK1/2, ERK1/2, p-SGK1, SGK1, p-GSK3β, GSK3β, TIP60, TIP60 (S86) and β-ACTIN (**C**) in THP-1 cells. (**D**) Representative images of immunofluorescent result of iNOS and CD206 in THP-1 cells. Scale bar = 50 μm. Statistical significance: \*\*P < 0.01, \*\*\*P < 0.001, compared with control group; #P < 0.05, compared with BLM + LPS group (n = 3).



Figure S7. Macrophage reprogramming is promoted by activating SGK1. (A)

Representative immunoblots against p-SGK1, SGK1, p-GSK3β, GSK3β, TIP60, TIP60

(S86), TGF-β, CCL-9 and β-ACTIN in THP-1 cells. **(B)** Representative images of immunofluorescent result of iNOS and CD206 in THP-1 cells. Scale bar = 50 μm. Statistical significance: \*P < 0.05, \*\*P < 0.01, \*\*\*P < 0.001, compared with control group;



Figure S8. Lung fibrotic injury and M2 reprograming process are largely improved after Clo intervention in BLM + LPS induced IPF mice. (A) Ratio of spleen and lung to body weight. (B) Immunofluorescent staining of FN and CD206 in

mouse lungs. Scale bar = 200 μm.

Characteristics	Values ( <i>n</i> = 27)
Age (y)	56.44±8.71
Sex (male/female)	14/13
BMI (kg/m²)	25.67±3.54
Smoking status	
Current smoker	3
Exsmoker	1
Nonsmoker	23
Exposure history (house dust, birds, cotton,	
chemical materials)	
None	27
Yes	0
System disease (dermatomyositis, rheumatoid	
arthritis, sarcoidosis, lupus & scleroderma)	
None	27
Yes	0
Pulmonary function tests	
FVC	3.15±0.89
% FVC	95.04±18.07
FEV <sub>1</sub>	2.51±0.81
% FEV1	91.94±20.22
FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC (%)	78.98±10.00
% DLco	88.74±16.83
% DL <sub>co</sub> /V <sub>A</sub>	102.11±18.98
Echocardiography	
% Ejection fraction	63.63±3.28

Table S1 The baseline characteristics of the IPF patients.

**Notes:** Data presented as *n* or mean ± standard deviation, unless otherwise indicated.

**Abbreviations:**  $DL_{CO}$  = diffusing capacity of the lung for carbon dioxide,  $FEV_1$  = forced expiratory volume in 1 s, FVC = forced vital capacity,  $V_A$  = alveolar volume.

Catalog Antibody Vendor Number 15613-1-AP Proteintech Group (Rosemont, USA) **FIBRONECTIN** E-Cadherin 20874-1-AP **Proteintech Group** SGK1 28454-1-AP **Proteintech Group** iNOS 18985-1-AP **Proteintech Group** TGF beta1 21898-1-AP **Proteintech Group** CD206 60143-1-lg **Proteintech Group** Histone-H3 17168-1-AP **Proteintech Group** F4/80 28463-1-AP **Proteintech Group** Phospho-GSK3β 29125-1-AP **Proteintech Group** GSK-3β sc-377213 Santa Cruz Biotechnology (Texas, USA) PCAF sc-13124 Santa Cruz Biotechnology TIP60 sc-32244 Santa Cruz Biotechnology p300 sc-32244 Santa Cruz Biotechnology MIP-1<sub>y</sub> sc-74228 Santa Cruz Biotechnology IL-17 sc-374218 Santa Cruz Biotechnology APC anti-mouse cluster of 100236 BIOLEGEND (Beijing, China) differentiation 3 antibody APC/Cyanine7 anti-mouse CD4 100413 BIOLEGEND antibody FITC anti-mouse IL-17A antibody BIOLEGEND 506907 alpha-smooth muscle actin 19245S Cell Signaling Technology (Danvers, USA) Phospho-SGK1 5599S Cell Signaling Technology Acetyl-Histone H3 4353S Cell Signaling Technology β-ΑCTIN 4970S Cell Signaling Technology Abcam (Melbourne, VIC, Australia) Tip60 ab73207 Collagen 1 ab34710 Abcam Goat anti-mouse IgG (H+L) Highly Cross-Adsorbed Thermo Fisher Scientific UI287767 secondary antibody (Alexa Fluor Plus 488) Goat anti-rabbit IgG (H+L), F(ab')2 Fragment (Alexa Fluor 8889S Cell Signaling Technology 594 Conjugate)

Table S2 The antibodies used in our study.